Royalty for mining of Lignite at Neyveli

2400. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the royalty for mining of Lignite at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu was taken several years in advance by the Government of Tamil Nadu during 1996—01.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the royalty for Lignite due to be given to Tamil Nadu as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARINARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) During March 2001, an advance of Rs. 250 crore was paid to Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) subject to adjustment in subsequent years. The advance of Rs. 250 crore has been adjusted as under:

Particulars of Royalty adjusted	Rs. in crore
2000-01	6.05
2001-02	91.85
2002-03	93.12
2003-04	58.98
Total	250.00

(c) No arrear of royalty is due for payment to Government of Tamil Nadu.

Illegal occupation of SECL land

†2401. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the persons who have illegally occupied the SECL. land in Ghevra/Dipika area alongwith the area thereof; and

(b) the action taken by SECL to get the land vacated?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) There are 17 persons illegally occupying the South Eastern Coalfields Limited land at the rehabilitation site of Dipika Expansion Project. Out of the 17 persons, 3 are employees of the company. The names of the persons who have occupied the land along with the area occupied is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Persons	Area
1.	Daya Shankar s/o Purru Ram, Chainpur Nagpur (Near Batari)	15x16 Mtr.
2.	Sant Ram s/o Budh Ram, Chainpur Nagpur (Near Batari)	-do-
3.	Chhat Singh s/o Ful Singh, Chainpur Nagpur (Near Batari)	-do-
4.	Sheik Jaill s/o Sheik Gaffur, Chainpur Nagpur (Near Batari)	-do-
5.	Sammelal s/o Purru Ram, Chainpur Nagpur	-do-
6.	Bhola Ram s/o Rupdas, Vrvekanand Nagar	-do-
7.	Godawari d/o Venketeswaraman, Vrvekanand Nagar.	-do-
8.	Mohit Ram s/o Ramadhin Sahu, Vivekanand Nagar.	-do-
9.	Ballu *urf* Deepak, Vrvekanand Nagar.	•do-
10	Bisahin Bai wd/o Damodhar.	-do-
11.	Vishnu Singh s/o Puma Chandra Singh, Vivekanand Nagar (Worker of Delwadhi Colliery).	•do-
12.	Iswar Singh s/o Puma Chandra Singh, Vivekanand Nagar (Worker of Surakachhar Colliery).	-do-
13	Makhan Singh s/o Duj Ram, Vivekanand Nagar.	-do-
14	Sukhi Ram s/o Duj Ram, Vivekanand Nagar	-do-
15.	Gokul s/o Ramashwar, Vivekanand Nagar (Worker of Kusmunda Area).	-do-
16	Raju s/o Tejnarayan Barber, Gandhi Nagar.	-do-
17	Hem Chand s/o Ghasi Ram, Gandhi Nagar.	-do-

(b) South Eastern Coalfields Limited has taken actions to get the land vacated which included the following:

(i) Issuance of charge sheet with suspension against one employee Vishnu Singh s/o Purna Chandra Singh, (SI. No. 11).

(ii) Issue of charge sheet with suspension and filing of FIR in case of second employee Gokul s/o Ramashwar, Vivekanand Nagar(SI. No. 15)

(iii) Issuance of letter to third employee, Iswar Singh s/o Purna Chandra Singh, (SI. No. 12) to demolish the illegal construction or to refund the case compensation of Rs. 50,000/- paid to him *in lieu of* the plot at resettlement site.

(iv) In respect of the other illegal occupants, the Area Management has issued letters directing them to vacate the impunged land.

Privatisation of coal mining

2402. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal users make a strong case for privatization of mining to deal with the shortage of coal in sustained manner;

(b) whether this issue was discussed at a higher level meeting convened with the representatives from the Ministries of Power, Steel, Railways, Fertilizers besides coal users;

(c) whether Government have decided to open up mining sector to private and foreign investment and have approved Rs. 4000 crores of FDI in Coal Sector; and

(d) if so, to what extent these decisions would help to meet deficit in high value minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) In 1993, the Government, through an amendment to the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973, (CMN), has allowed captive mining of coal to Indian companies engaged in certain specified/notified end uses.

Since 1997, upto 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Indian companies engaged in power generation and upto 74% in those engaged in production of Iron & Steel or cement has been allowed. Upto 100% FDI is also allowed in Indian companies engaged in processing/beneficiation of coal. The Government has granted approvals for FDI valued at Rs. 161 crore (approximately) so far in the coal sector.